WORLD PARISH

APRIL 1957

American Edition

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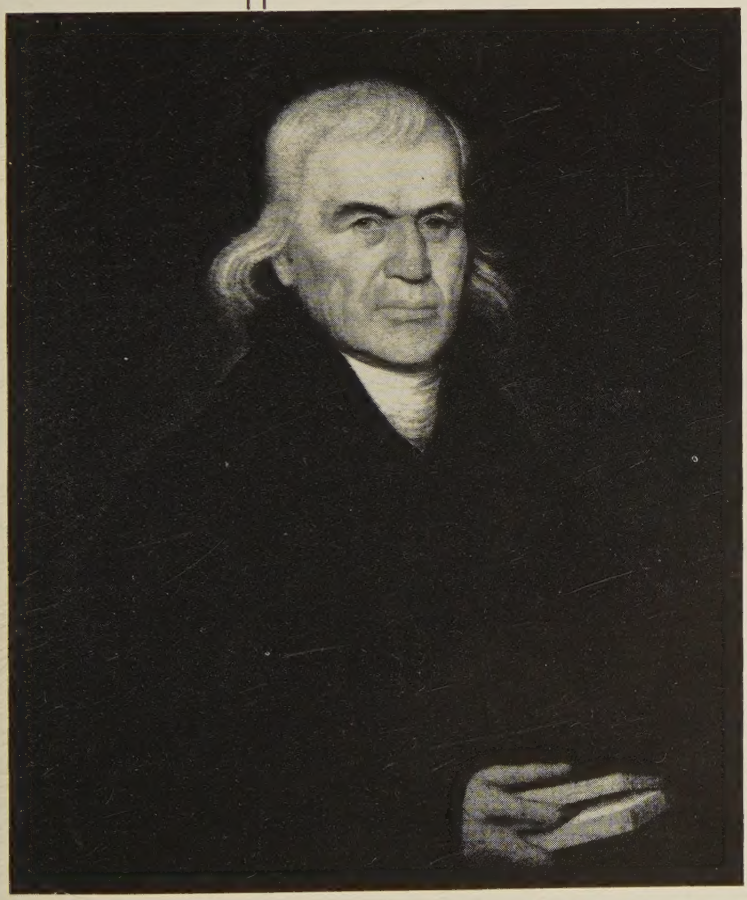

BISHOP FRANCIS ASBURY

This portrait of Asbury has recently been acquired and added to the collection in the World Methodist Building at Lake Junaluska. It was in a dilapidated state when found and was restored at the Corcoran Gallery at Washington. It has been certified as an original painted from life by both the National Gallery of Art and the Corcoran Gallery. The Artist has not yet been definitely determined.

Methodist Leaders Visit the White House

Dr. Elmer T. Clark presenting Methodist leaders to President Eisenhower

METHODIST HISTORICAL PILGRIMAGE

At the conclusion of the World Methodist Conference last September a group of about one hundred and twenty visitors from other countries were taken in buses on a Methodist historical pilgrimage from Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, to New York. The trip required four days.

At Washington the party were received by President Eisenhower in the rose garden at the White House. The group also visited the Asbury Monument, Lincoln Memorial and other points of interest in the national capital.

At Baltimore the visitors went through the museum at Lovely Lane Church and held a service at the grave of Francis Asbury in Mount Olivet Cemetery.

On Sunday there was a morning service in Philadelphia at old Saint George's Church, the oldest Methodist Church building in America. Proceeding to New York, an evening service was held in the old John Street Church, the oldest operating Methodist society in the country.

Among the countries represented on the pilgrimage were England, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, India, Germany, Ceylon, Italy, Fiji, and the West Indies.

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MINUTES
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, SECTION XIII
WORLD METHODIST COUNCIL

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

February 10, 1957

The Executive Committee of Section XIII of the World Methodist Council met in the Astoria Room of the Conrad Hilton Hotel, Chicago, Illinois, at 2 P. M., Sunday, February 10, 1957. The Chairman, Bishop Paul E. Martin, presided. Those present were: Bishop Paul E. Martin, Bishop Ivan Lee Holt, Elmer T. Clark, Edwin L. Jones, Oscar T. Olson, T. Otto Nall, J. Manning Potts, Karl Quimby, Miss Dorothy McConnell, Mrs. Paul Arrington, Mrs. J. Fount Tillman, Harold Ewing, J. W. Fowler, and R. E. L. Bearden. Dr. Homer Magee sat with the Committee as a representative of the Commission on World Service and Finance.

The Secretary announced that he had received letters from Bishop Fred P. Corson, Bishop Arthur J. Moore and Mr. Andrew H. Phelps in explanation of their inability to be present.

It was decided to adjourn at 4 P. M. and reassemble for dinner at 6 P.M.

The Secretary, Elmer T. Clark, read his report. See pages 7-14.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

The Treasurer, Edwin L. Jones, presented an ad interim report, pointing out that his final report for the preceding fiscal year, together with a report of the auditor, had been filed with the Secretary and also with the Commission on World Service and Finance, and that a complete report for the current year would be similarly filed after May 31.

The Treasurer stated that for the eight months of the current year the total expenditures had been $23,005.03, which was $3,661.63 under

the budget for the period, and that $6,000 budgeted for the 1961 Conference was being set aside and invested in Government securities. All items in the budget had been underspent for the period except that of office salaries, an overexpenditure here being due to the additional help required for the Ninth World Methodist Conference. The Treasurer reported that the cost of the World Conference was $39,218.45. He estimated that there would be a balance of about $7,000 at the end of the fiscal year.

Epworth Rectory

The Treasurer stated that he had on hand $5,510 for the Epworth Rectory fund. He was authorized to remit the total amount to Dr. E. Benson Perkins.

Mr. Jones reported that he had conferred with Mr. Charles C. Parlin with reference to the Epworth Rectory fund and that Mr. Parlin suggested that $30,000 be borrowed to finance the work which had already been started on the Rectory. This matter was discussed by the Chairman, Bishop Holt, the Secretary and others, and the section in the Secretary's report regarding the Rectory was pointed out. On motion of Edwin L. Jones, the Committee expressed its interest in and full support of the Epworth Rectory project and requested Mr. Parlin to call a meeting of the American members of the Board of Managing Trustees for the purpose of developing a plan to raise the needed funds.

Proceedings of the World Methodist Conference

The Treasurer reported that he had on hand a balance of approximately $4,000 from the funds set aside for the World Methodist Conference. He moved that this amount be made available for any subsidy that might be required for the Volume of Proceedings. This was adopted.

World Executive Committee

There was discussion concerning the expenses of those persons from Section XIII who are members of the World Executive Committee. The Treasurer stated that the expenses of those who represented other church agencies had always been paid by such agencies and that certain laymen had paid their own expenses. He moved that the surplus at the end of the fiscal year be made available for travel expenses to the meeting of the World Executive Committee at London in July, not to exceed $1,000 per person. This was unanimously adopted.

Budget

On motion of the Treasurer the officers were authorized to readjust the budget for the next fiscal year within the amount of the appropriation of $40,000.00.

Tenure of Officers

Edwin L. Jones pointed out that the Constitution adopted at Lake Junaluska provided that the Secretaries and Treasurers of the World Methodist Council are to be elected annually by the Executive Committee. He stated that this is contrary to our procedure and that it would be difficult or impossible to secure a Secretary in the United States on an annual basis. On motion duly seconded and unanimously adopted, it was decided that this point should be raised at the World Executive Committee meeting and that the Secretaries and Treasurers should be elected for the five-year period.

World Methodist Building

Attention was called to the section of the Secretary's report referring to the World Methodist Building at Lake Junaluska and the various actions taken to establish there the headquarters of the World Methodist Council in the United States. On motion of Oscar T. Olson, seconded by Mrs. Tillman, the following action was unanimously adopted:

> The Executive Committee of Section XIII of the World Methodist Council recognizes as official the actions of the World Executive Committee and the Executive and Finance Committees of Section XIII adopted in July, 1953, and duly published in the Minutes of those meetings, which actions located the headquarters of the World Methodist Council in the United States at Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, and provided for the raising of funds and the erection of a headquarters building there. This Executive Committe reaffirms its previous actions to that effect.

Charles Wesley Anniversary

The proper observance of the 250th anniversary of the birth of Charles Wesley was discussed at length. By unanimous vote the Board of Evangelism was asked to represent the World Methodist Council and take the leadership in promoting the Charles Wesley commemoration throughout the country. The Board of Evangelism was also asked to seek the cooperation of the Commission on Worship and Fine Arts, the Commission on Visual Education, the Protestant Film Commission, the Hymn Society of America, the Board of Education, the American Federation of Methodist Musicians, the Woman's Division of Christian Service, and other interested groups. The Chairman and Secretary were instructed to send a joint letter to the bishops, requesting their cooperation and asking them to include the observance in the program of each Annual Conference session this year.

Cultivation and Promotion

The Chairman made a statement on behalf of the officers of Section XIII with reference to the cultivation of the home Church. He pointed

out that the appropriation of $4,500 in our present budget for this purpose had not been used and the officers recommended that the appropriation be continued next year under the same provisions, and that the fund should be used for publicity, meetings, and other forms of cultivation in The Methodist Church in this country.

The Committee adjourned.

Evening Session

The Executive Committee reassembled for a dinner meeting at 6 P. M. The Vice-Chairman, Dr. Oscar T. Olson, presided.

Harold Ewing stated that a Christian Education Conference was to be held under the auspices of the Board of Education and that its program should include an observance of the 250th anniversary of the birth of Charles Wesley, featuring the Wesley hymns. It was agreed that this should be done and that the Secretary should contact the proper secretary of the Board of Education and the Board of Evangelism.

Dr. J. Manning Potts reported that the book, "The World Methodist Movement," produced by *The Upper Room* for the Ninth World Methodist Conference had been distributed to Methodist ministers and missionaries throughout the world and that the response thereto had been most gratifying. The Committee expressed its gratitude to Dr. Potts and *The Upper Room* for the production and distribution of this volume.

London Methodist Library

The Secretary called attention to that section of his report regarding the Methodist Library in London. The following resolution was adopted:

1. The Committee expresses its interest in the project but does not possess sufficient information to warrant action at this time.
2. The Secretary is asked to make investigations of the matter when he is in London and report to the officers of the Committee.
3. The officers are authorized to make a contribution not exceeding one-half of the total amount, provided that the funds can be found within our budget.

Further Business

Dr. Karl Quimby made a report on the exchange of preachers. He explained the routine by which the preachers are selected and the great care exercised in approving them. The Committee expressed its gratitude to Dr. Quimby for his work in this connection.

The Chairman and Secretary were authorized to call the next meeting of the Executive Committee at the time and place which they deem most suitable.

The Committee adjourned.

Paul E. Martin, *Chairman*
Elmer T. Clark, *Secretary*

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, SECTION XIII WORLD METHODIST COUNCIL

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, U.S.A.

February 10, 1957

As a part of this report, I am submitting folders on the work of the World Methodist Council and the Association of Methodist Historical Societies, which is related to and shares headquarters and finances with the Council. These were prepared for the meeting of District Superintendents and contain information concerning certain phases of our work.

The outstanding event of the current period was, of course, the meeting of the Ninth World Methodist Conference at Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, August 27-September 12, 1956, which has been described by foreign Methodist publications as the greatest such conference ever held. It was attended by approximately two thousand persons from forty or more lands. Perhaps the most significant event there was the action of the World Federation of Methodist Women in severing exclusive ties with American Methodism and becoming an affiliate of the World Methodist Council.

EPWORTH OLD RECTORY

A few years ago the British Conference purchased the old Epworth Rectory, childhood home of John and Charles Wesley, and appointed Managing Trustees to handle the property. It was later decided to develop it as a shrine of World Methodism and vest ownership in the World Methodist Council. This was accepted by the Council and additional members of the Board of Managing Trustees were elected; among these were Bishop Holt, Dr. J. Manning Potts, Mr. Charles C. Parlin, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and Bishop Ferdinand Sigg.

Plans have been made for restoring and remodeling the Rectory to include quarters for a caretaker and a few rooms for guests. The estimated cost of this is $30,000, to which has been added $5,000 for the restoration of the boyhood home of Francis Asbury, which has been designated as a historic site by the town council of West Bromwich. On August 30, 1956, the World Methodist Council adopted the following resolution on this subject:

> "That for these purposes a capital fund of approximately thirty-five thousand dollars be raised and in due course a Living Endowment subscribed annually by all the Sections of World Methodism. The Managing Trustees of the Epworth Old Rectory shall be the committee in charge of the financing of both the schemes."

The Secretary made an approach to the Council of Bishops with reference to this fund, but in view of the church-wide appeal for Hungarian Relief, consideration was deferred until the next meeting of the Council.

It then developed that seven or eight interested persons met on the night of September 8th at Lake Junaluska and named Mr. Parlin as Chairman, Dr. Eric Baker as Vice-Chairman, and Dr. E. Benson Perkins as Secretary. This group authorized the Chairman to borrow funds to be transmitted to England in anticipation of contributions.

Since work is actively under way on the restoration of the Rectory and the British say that money must be found to pay the bills, certain questions emerge.

What is the responsibility of this Executive Committee in raising the fund? The action of the World Methodist Council reads, "The Managing Trustees of the Epworth Old Rectory shall be the committee in charge of the financing of both the schemes." The meeting on September 8th assumed responsibility and decided that not The Methodist Church, U.S.A., only, but all Sections of the Council except the British should be invited to make contributions, but it made no suggestion as to the amount or proportion to be raised by our Church. I am sure that this Committee is interested without regard to actual responsibility, and consideration should be given to our procedure.

Charles Wesley Commemoration

Charles Wesley was born on December 18 (or 29th, New Style,) 1707, and this year marks the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of his birth. The World Methodist Council has launched a world-wide commemoration of that event in cooperation with hymn societies and similar organizations everywhere. In this country some preliminary steps have already been taken. The Council of Bishops has endorsed the observance. The Epworth Press in London will publish a book on Charles Wesley and his hymns for the occasion. The Hymn Society of America has signified its cooperation and will produce some printed materials. A tentative plan has been outlined for large hymn festivals in New York, Chicago, Savannah and Los Angeles, and the bishops in the areas involved have indicated their interest. A joint celebration of Aldersgate and the one hundred and ninetieth anniversary of St. George's Church in Philadelphia will be held on May 24-26, and there will be a Hymn Festival there on November 17-24. The Board of Evangelism is setting up a committee to direct the observance as an evangelistic and devotional occasion, and *The Upper Room* will produce a small popular booklet on Charles Wesley for distribution in the churches. The Commission on Worship and the Fine Arts has promised cooperation, and the same is true of the Radio, Film and Television Commission. It is expected that the event may be included in the celebration of the Centenary of the Newark Conference in May.

It has been agreed with the Hymn Society of America that the whole year will be regarded as the period of the commemoration, the ultimate object being hymn services and addresses on Charles Wesley in local churches. It is hoped that public presentations will begin at the various summer assemblies; the Lake Junaluska Assembly has already planned such an event. It is hoped that each Annual Conference session this year will place a Charles Wesley observance on its program.

Charles Wesley belongs to all denominations, since his hymns are used by all, and the commemoration in this country is to be interdenominational. In the nature of the case, however, the major responsibility must be borne by our own Church. It is suggested that this Executive Committee give consideration to the whole matter of promoting this important project. It will call for a committee representing various interested groups and perhaps a special national director of the whole movement.

Proceedings of the Conference

The Proceedings of the Ninth World Methodist Conference has been edited and is now in the press. This will be a book of around 600 pages and will contain the Minutes and official documents, the addresses delivered at the Conference, and a complete roster of the Council and Conference. The price of the book is $3.50 and 700 copies have been sold. This means that a considerable subsidy will be necessary and that it must be provided by this Executive Committee. In 1951 we provided a subsidy of $1,500 for a book of 325 pages printed in Great Britain, where publishing costs are much lower. This heavy item has not been provided for and must be taken into consideration in the revision of our budget. It is hoped that the volume will be ready next month.

Future Policy

The World Methodist Council must not be content to maintain headquarters and carry on correspondence between meetings of the whole Council and the larger Conference. It should develop and carry out a larger policy in keeping with the need and opportunity and with its own importance as the representative of the Methodists of the World. Among the elements of a policy for our Section, the following may be mentioned:

1. There should be an adequate program of cultivation of our own Church. This includes meetings of our Section, perhaps by Jurisdictions, visiting Annual Conferences and other meetings, and general publicity. This phase of our work could utilize much of the time of a cultivation secretary if it can be financed.

2. Our Committee on Exchange should enlarge its work to include all parts of the world and arranging itineraries for notable visitors and other activities in the same field.

3. We should establish the Magazine of World Methodism provided

for by the Council. This should probably be edited and published in Great Britain. The Epworth Press estimates that a 32-page periodical can be published and distributed if 3,000 subscriptions at $1.00 each can be provided. Doubtless it would be necessary to purchase most of these subscriptions in the beginning, but with proper promotion the project should become self-supporting.

4. In order to maintain contact with, and support the whole ecumenical movement, one of our officers should attend each meeting of the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches, to which we are entitled to send an official representative.

5. The Secretary in the United States is responsible for contacts and cultivation in the whole of the Western Hemisphere, including Canada, West Indies, and Central and South America. The status of the ecumenical Methodist consciousness in these areas indicates a need for increased cultivation, and this should be undertaken with vigor.

6. We should continue to develop the collection of Wesleyana and Methodistica in the World Methodist Building. That collection is visited by scores of thousands of Methodists annually, and this has already become one of our best methods of cultivation. Mr. Frank Salisbury has expressed a willingness to paint for our collection the portraits of Susanna Wesley, Charles Wesley, and Dr. Coke. There are no such portraits in America, and I do not know of a portrait of Mrs. Wesley anywhere. I have recently acquired a portrait of Asbury which both the National Gallery of Art and the Corcoran Gallery in Washington have certified as being an original painted from life. Our collection of prints and art objects is the largest in the country and our library should be built up. We should have not only the books that have been written *about* Methodists and Methodism, but also those written *by* Methodists.

7. It has been suggested that we prepare and publish a small historical booklet on "The Story of the World Methodist Council." This could be a condensation of the work edited and published by Dr. J. Manning Potts of *The Upper Room* for the Lake Junaluska Conference.

8. When the *Annotated Edition of the Journal and Letters of Francis Asbury* has been published, we should at once begin the production of the *Encyclopedia of Methodism* which the World Methodist Council has been urging for thirty or forty years. This must be in cooperation with the historical societies of the world, this Committee sharing in the cost. At any rate, we should undertake a *Dictionary of Methodist Biography*. I would like to have the Committee's considered judgment on this matter.

9. In due course it will doubtless be necessary to provide a home for the Secretary at Lake Junaluska.

This constitutes an ambitious program of work. It could not be carried on with our present financial resources. We should seek a more nearly adequate appropriation from the Commission on World Service and Finance. In view of the large amounts given to the World and

National Councils of Churches, an annual appropriation of $100,000 does not seem too much to ask for the ecumenical organization of World Methodism.

Finances

Each Section of the World Methodist Council provides its own budget, although by long precedent the host Section provides local entertainment for foreign members and delegates at the Conferences. There is no unified world budget and our own appropriation is made to and administered exclusively by this Executive Committee. It could not be otherwise under the present economic circumstances throughout the world. Our budget now has an item of $2,000 for the travel of the President when he goes on Council business to lands other than his own. The only contribution we received for the World Conference was $2,000 from the African Methodist Episcopal Church. We paid no travel expenses but we provided entertainment for around 250 foreign members, delegates and official visitors.

Our long standing arrangement for sharing expenses with the Association of Methodist Historical Societies will probably continue as long as the Secretariat of the two groups is unified but it probably cannot be regarded as a permanent policy.

Our Section has fourteen members of the World Executive Committee. It is highly important that all of them attend the annual meeting to be held in London during the first week in July, since matters of serious importance to our own Church will be discussed there. Some members represent other Church agencies and in the past the expenses of these were paid by the organizations they represented; this practice will probably continue in most cases. The Commission on World Service and Finance has provided $2,000 for the travel of the active bishops who are members of the Committee. The Treasurer and Finance Committee will report to this Committee on this problem.

Methodist Library In London

We have a request from the Wesley Historical Library in London for aid in installing proper shelving and lighting equipment in its new quarters at the Wesley Chapel premises on City Road. The total cost will be $2,520 (900 pounds) and they have in hand $420 (150 pounds). Thus they need $1,900, which is nearly 75% of the total. I do not know whether they expect us to provide this entire amount or whether they can raise more funds locally. If any sum can be provided by this Committee I think it will be matched by the Association of Methodist Historical Societies. I realize that it will be difficult to render any assistance at this time, but it is a worthy cause and I am sure the Committee would like to help if practicable. Perhaps an appropriation can be made with the understanding that it will be paid from next year's budget.

World Methodist Building

In view of discussions regarding the headquarters building of the World Methodist Council at Lake Junaluska, I would like to review some history.

I. On July 2-3, 1953, the Executive and Finance Committees of Section XIII of the World Methodist Council, four members of the Council from Great Britain being present, took the following action, which was recorded in the official Minutes, and published in *World Parish* in November, 1953:

> "In connection with his report as Chairman of the Finance Committee, Mr. Jones referred to the Secretary's suggestion concerning permanent headquarters for the World Methodist Council. He stated that in his opinion such headquarters in the United States should be located at Lake Junaluska, since it is the official central assembly of the largest Jurisdiction of The Methodist Church and is annually visited by thousands of Methodists. He further stated that a site would be provided and that $25,000 would be secured for a suitable building. He estimated that the total cost would be about $50,000, which he thought could be raised, and that the Council could provide $2,500 per year for equipment and maintenance.
>
> "This was discussed by several persons and the following action was taken by unanimous vote:
>
> "1. The location of the headquarters of the World Methodist Council in the United States at Lake Junaluska was approved.
>
> "2. The Treasurer was instructed to present the whole matter of headquarters to the World Executive Committee at Birmingham, England.
>
> "3. A committee shall be constituted to raise the funds necessary for the erection of a suitable headquarters building.
>
> "4. The thanks of the committee was expressed to Mr. Jones for his interest in this matter."

II. On July 22-25, 1953, the World Executive Committee of the World Methodist Council at Birmingham, England, took unanimous action as follows, which was duly recorded and published:

> "There was discussion concerning permanent headquarters for the World Methodist Council. It was agreed that as the organization developed such headquarters would be needed in Great Britain and the United States, and perhaps elsewhere in due time.
>
> "Elmer T. Clark stated that the Executive Committee, U.S.A., had by resolution invited the Council to establish permanent headquarters at Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, U.S.A., and had indicated the probability that a building would be provided. E. Benson Perkins and Harold Roberts stated that Mr. Edwin L. Jones, Treasurer and Chairman of the Finance Committee,

U.S.A., had communicated with them in similar terms. The following action was taken:

"1. That the invitation be accepted and permanent headquarters of the World Methodist Council be established at Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, U.S.A.

"2. That the World Executive Committee instruct the Treasurer and the members residing in the United States to take in the name of the World Methodist Council any steps that may be necessary to secure funds and erect an adequate headquarters building there."

III. Pursuant to these official actions a committee was constituted, the Treasurer and the chairman of the committee presented the matter to the College of Bishops of the Southeastern Jurisdiction, which gave unanimous approval to the project and promised cooperation in raising funds. An appeal for the funds was then inaugurated.

IV. The World Executive Committee of the World Methodist Council met at Evanston, Illinois, August 11-14, 1954. The joint report of the Secretaries to this meeting contained the following statement, which was recorded and published:

"The Executive Committee in 1953 approved the location of headquarters for the World Methodist Council in the United States and the erection of a suitable building at Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, and the Treasurer and members residing in the United States were instructed 'to take in the name of the World Methodist Council any steps that may be necessary to secure Funds and erect an adequate headquarters building.' We are gratified to report progress in this matter. With the cooperation of the Bishops of the Southeastern Jurisdiction of The Methodist Church, more than half of the amount needed has been raised and pledges are in hand that seem to insure the success of the enterprise. Accordingly a site has been provided and ground was broken on July 4th by officers of the World Methodist Council in a public ceremony. The building, which is expected to be completed by 1956, will house the administrative offices of the World Methodist Council and the Association of Methodist Historical Societies and also a historical library. This will be the only building in the world representing the whole of Methodism and its erection should give permanence to the World Methodist Council."

At this meeting it was also reported that $36,000 was in hand for the World Methodist Building and that the full amount needed would be raised. The Treasurer reported that he had set aside $5,000 for equipment.

V. Immediately following the meeting of the World Executive Committee at Evanston, the British Secretary of the World Methodist Council visited Lake Junaluska, with a view to advising on a suitable location for the headquarters building.

VI. The Executive Committee of Section XIII of the World Methodist Council met in Cincinnati, Ohio, on January 12, 1953. At this meeting it was reported that $48,540.72, plus some accrued interest, was in hand for the World Methodist Building and that construction would probably begin soon. This was recorded and published.

VII. The World Executive Committee of the World Methodist Council met at Belfast, Ireland, June 1-4, 1955. This Committee received a further report concerning the progress of the fund and plans for building the headquarters building at Lake Junaluska.

VIII. In the fall of 1955 the Trustees of the Lake Junaluska Assembly, Inc., deeded to the World Methodist Council, Inc., the finest tract of land on the Assembly grounds, valued at not less than $10,000. Construction was started and the building was furnished and occupied before the meeting of the Ninth World Methodist Conference last year.

It will thus be seen that at every step of the way the Committee in charge of this project followed the explicit instructions of both the Executive Committee of Section XIII and the World Executive Committee of the World Methodist Council, progress being reported at each meeting of either Committee. From the beginning no dissident voice was raised, but on the contrary, there was always universal acceptance of the fact that we were erecting at Lake Junaluska the officially designated headquarters of the World Methodist Council in this country. On this assumption the Bishops of the Southeastern Jurisdiction and numerous individuals were induced to raise or give large sums of money for the project and the Lake Junaluska Assembly provided a valuable location. It seems clear, therefore, that any reversal of action by either Committee would constitute a breach of faith and raise questions of integrity. It is therefore suggested that this Executive Committee reaffirm its action of 1953. Respectfully submitted,

ELMER T. CLARK, *Secretary*

CHARLES WESLEY COMMEMORATION

The current year is the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the birth of Charles Wesley, and all branches of Methodism throughout the world will unite in a fitting commemoration of the event under the sponsorship of the World Methodist Council. In this country it will be sponsored also by the Hymn Society of America. A special book on Charles Wesley and his hymns is being prepared by the Epworth Press in London.

The World Methodist Council has asked the Board of Evangelism to take the initiative in promoting the celebration throughout the Methodist Church, U.S.A. This Board promoted the great Philadelphia commemoration of the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the birth of John Wesley.

On March 18th, representatives of numerous boards and church agencies interested in the commemoration met at Nashville, Tennessee, for a discussion of plans, programs and methods.

(Printed for the Record)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ASSOCIATION OF METHODIST HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

April 28, 1956

The Executive Committee of the Association of Methodist Historical Societies met at dinner in the Vermilion Room of the Curtis Hotel, Minneapolis, at 6 P.M. on April 28, 1956. Members present were Bishop Paul N. Garber, Bishop Ivan Lee Holt, Bishop Fred P. Corson, Bishop Gerald H. Kennedy, Bishop William C. Martin, Dr. Elmer T. Clark, Mr. Edwin L. Jones, Dr. T. Otto Nall, Dr. Oscar T. Olson, Mr. Charles C. Parlin, Dr. Jacob S. Payton, Dr. J. Manning Potts, Dr. Lester A. Welliver, and Dr. H. R. Carson as proxy for T. A. Stafford.

Among the guests were Mrs. Holt, Mrs. Corson, Mrs. Kennedy, Mrs. Olson, Dr. Thomas L. Lugg, Dean William R. Cannon, Rev. Albert Cliffe, Bishop and Mrs. C. W. Flint, and Mr. Pat Beaird. These were all presented and welcomed.

Reports and Discussions

The Secretary read a report and there was discussion of the new headquarters building and library at Lake Junaluska and other sections of the Report. Mr. Pat Beaird made a statement concerning the publication of the new *Annotated Edition of the Letters and Journal of Francis Asbury*, to be published jointly by the Abingdon Press in this country and the Epworth Press in London.

The Report of the Nominating Committee was presented by Dr. J. Manning Potts, and the following were elected for the ensuing quadrennium:

President
Bishop William C. Martin

Vice Presidents
Bishop Fred P. Corson
Bishop Paul N. Garber
Bishop Hazen G. Werner
Bishop Glenn R. Phillips

Executive Secretary
Elmer T. Clark

Treasurer
Mrs. Kenneth Stahl

Miscellaneous Business

The election of six additional members of the Executive Committee was postponed.

A motion was adopted that the budget for the past year be continued and that the Secretary should increase the various items proportionately if a larger appropriation should be granted by the General Conference.

PAUL N. GARBER, *President*
ELMER T. CLARK, *Secretary*

(Printed for the Record)

MINUTES
ASSOCIATION OF METHODIST HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

Lake Junaluska, North Carolina

September 3, 1956

The Executive Committee of the Association of Methodist Historical Societies, together with representatives of various Conference Societies, met at the Paul B. Kern Youth Center, Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, at 3 p.m. on September 3, 1956. In the absence of the President, Bishop William C. Martin, Dr. Lester A. Welliver acted as Chairman.

The Secretary made a statement concerning the nature of the meeting, pointing out that it was not a full meeting of the Executive Committee because the six members to be appointed by the bishops had not yet been named.

The following persons were present: J. B. Cain, George H. Jones, Albert W. Cliffe, Newton Grice, Frank B. Stanger, Frederick E. Maser, W. G. Smeltzer, H. R. Carson, Vernon Hampton, W. H. Harris, T. Otto Nall, Don Redmond, Lawrence Sherwood, A. D. Betts, John Barnes, Ewing Wayland, John Green, Jacob S. Payton, Lester A. Welliver, Elmer T. Clark, Albea Godbold, Edgar H. Nease, J. Manning Potts, Mrs. Kenneth Stahl, Mrs. Paul Arrington and Mrs. John Corson. The Rev. W. C. Mavis of the Free Methodist Church was also in attendance.

Asbury's Letters and Journal

The Secretary presented a report on the progress being made in the annotated edition of the *Journal and Letters of Francis Asbury*, pointing out that the volume of *Letters* and first volume of the *Journal* were already in type. This report was supplemented by statements from Dr. J. Manning Potts and Dr. Jacob S. Payton.

Charles Wesley Anniversary

The Secretary reported that the World Methodist Council and the International Methodist Historical Society had endorsed a worldwide observance of the 250th anniversary of the birth of Charles Wesley and that the Hymn Society of America desired to participate in the observance in the United States. After discussion it was agreed that this observance should be vigorously promoted in this country and the President and Executive Secretary were authorized to appoint the proper committees and arrange the details of the observance.

Aldersgate Sunday

There was discussion concerning the observance of Aldersgate Sunday and it was agreed that this

should be vigorously promoted through Jurisdictional and Conference Historical Societies in cooperation with all the other agencies of the Church and especially with the Board of Evangelism.

Asbury Portrait

Dr. Jacob S. Payton reported on the discovery of an original portrait of Francis Asbury in the possession of the Tebbs family and described his negotiations for its acquisition. He pointed out that while the portrait was badly in need of restoration it had been certified as an original by both the National Gallery of Art and the Corcoran Art Gallery in Washington. A motion was unanimously passed that if financial arrangements could be made this portrait should be purchased and placed in the World Methodist Building at Lake Junaluska.

The Grave of William Watters

Dr. Jacob S. Payton presented a report concerning the graves of William Watters and his wife near Falls Church, Virginia. He stated that the lot had been deeded to the Virginia Annual Conference, but it was surrounded by other property and there was no access to the graves, which were in a bad condition. A motion was passed that since the grave of this notable Methodist pioneer has been neglected and desecrated in the present location, the entire remains should be moved to Mount Olivet Cemetery in Baltimore. The Secretary was instructed to communicate with the Virginia and Baltimore Conference Historical Societies with reference to this matter.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

ELMER T. CLARK, *Secretary*

* * *

PROCEEDINGS OF THE WORLD CONFERENCE

The *Proceedings of the Ninth World Methodist Conference* is now in the press and will be ready for delivery soon.

This notable volume of more than 500 pages will contain a complete record of the World Methodist Conference at Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, including all the addresses and lectures, the message to the churches, the report of the discussion groups, Who's Who of all accredited personnel, Minutes of the meetings and official documents of every kind. Every Methodist should have a copy of this important book.

The price is $3.50, or its equivalent in British currency if purchased outside the United States.

Orders should be sent without delay to the Methodist Publishing House, 810 Broadway, Nashville, Tenn., or to the Epworth Press, 25-35 City Road, E.C.I., London, England.

(Printed for the Record)

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WORLD METHODIST COUNCIL

EDGEHILL COLLEGE, BELFAST, IRELAND

June 1-4, 1955

The Executive Committee of the World Methodist Council met at Edgehill College, Belfast, Northern Ireland, on June 1-4, 1955. Bishop Ivan Lee Holt and Dr. Harold Roberts, President and Vice President, presided.

The following members and official visitors, who were accorded the privileges of the floor, were present: Bishop Ivan Lee Holt, President; Dr. Harold Roberts, Vice President; E. Benson Perkins and Elmer T. Clark, Secretaries; Edwin L. Jones, Treasurer; Eric W. Baker, Bishop Bertram W. Doyle, Dr. Dorothy Farrar, W. J. Noble, Charles C. Parlin, Wilfred Easton, Mrs. John W. Pearson (representing Mrs. Frank G. Brooks, U.S.A.), Bishop S. L. Greene, Bishop Odd Hagen, T. Harold Wood (representing R. B. Lew of Australia), Wilfred Wade, Bishop W. J. Walls, J. Manning Potts, T. Otto Nall, Bishop Ferdinand Sigg, Frank Baker, Stanley Leyland, S. L. Greene, Jr., Rupert E. Davies, Reginald Kissack, Mrs. T. Otto Nall, Joseph B. Jameson, W. L. Northridge.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1

Devotions were conducted in the College Chapel by Dr. W. L. Northridge, the principal.

The Secretaries reported that the Minutes of the last meeting, held at Evanston in August, 1954, had been printed and circulated in *World Parish*, and these Minutes were adopted without further reading.

The Secretaries also submitted agenda and various documents, which were accepted.

The President, in his opening statement, reported on contacts between Methodists of the world and described visits of himself, Dr. Elmer T. Clark, and Dr. J. Manning Potts to the West Indies, Australia, and New Zealand.

REPORTS

The Secretaries made oral reports. E. Benson Perkins spoke of the work of the British committees and announced the purchase of the Epworth Old Rectory. Elmer T. Clark reported on preparations for the 1956 World Conference, stated that the World Methodist Building is under construction at Lake Junaluska, U.S.A., and described the work being done on the *Journal and Letters of Francis Asbury*.

Edwin L. Jones, American Treasurer, reported that he had on hand about $28,000, of which $23,000 was reserved for the expenses of the 1956 World Conference. He stated that lodging and meals for overseas delegates would be provided from this re-

serve. He pointed out that the World Methodist Building being erected would contain the administrative offices of the World Methodist Council and the Methodist Historical Society, as well as Dr. Clark's valuable collection of Wesleyana.

E. Benson Perkins presented a report for the British Treasurer. He stated that the British Conference made an annual grant of 750 pounds and that a reserve was on hand. The New Zealand Conference contributed ten pounds per year.

Among other reports were those of Wilfred Wade for the British sub-committee on European relations and Stanley Leyland for the Committee on Exchange of Preachers. A full discussion followed these reports.

THURSDAY, JUNE 2

Devotions in the College Chapel were led by The Rev. T. Harold Wood.

OXFORD MEMORIAL

The Rev. Reginald Kissack presented a report on the Oxford Memorial. Dr. Harold Roberts stated that the transfer of Westminster Training College to Oxford would have an influence on the plan to establish a World Methodist Center there. This whole matter was remitted to the committee for further study and clarification, with instructions to report to the Council in 1956. It was suggested that interested persons should send their questions or comments to Mr. Kissack or Dr. Roberts through E. Benson Perkins.

On behalf of the Woman's Committee, Dr. Dorothy Farrar stated that the organization of the World Federation of Methodist Women was proceeding satisfactorily according to the action taken at Evanston in 1954, and that the Federation would meet in connection with the 1956 World Methodist Conference. She announced the death of Dr. Frank G. Brooks, and a message of sympathy was sent to Mrs. Brooks.

Historical Society

Dr. Frank Baker reported for the International Methodist Historical Society. He stated that the United Church of Canada had asked for and received the ashes of James Evans, pioneer missionary among the Cree Indians of the Hudson Bay territory. Evans had been buried in a Hull church which was destroyed during the war.

Dr. Baker also reported on the *History of Methodism* being prepared under the editorship of Dr. Gordon Rupp. The work will be in four volumes, including a volume of documents. He stated that a plan is under consideration for conferring Fellowships in Methodist History on certain persons who have made notable contributions in that field.

Schemes of Church Union

Wilfred Easton spoke about union schemes in which Methodists are involved and pointed out that national and confessional unions are not necessarily incompatible, and he supported regional unions. Wilfred Wade pointed out

the danger of secular nationalism in regional schemes. There was considerable discussion of this theme.

Bishop Holt stated that negotiations were continuing between The Methodist Church and the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States. Representatives of the latter have proposed that three Episcopal bishops participate in the consecration of Methodist bishops and three Methodist bishops share in the consecration of Episcopal bishops.

General Policy

Charles C. Parlin read a paper on the Future Policy of the World Methodist Council.

In the ensuing discussion Eric W. Baker declared that the Methodists are more or less ineffective in ecumenical discussion. W. J. Noble agreed, and stated that we have reached a critical point in the development of our world organization and must now determine our future policy and program. There was discussion at some length.

The World Council of Churches

Harold Roberts spoke of the Methodist responsibility arising from the Evanston Assembly of the World Council of Churches. He pointed to the lack of emphasis in the Evanston report of the fundamental principles of Methodism and urged the need of thinking out the doctrine of Christian Perfection in the context of total Methodist theology.

FRIDAY, JUNE 3

Dr. Harold Roberts, assisted by Bishop Ferdinand Sigg and Dr. T. Otto Nall, conducted a service of Holy Communion in the College Chapel.

Epworth Rectory

Charles C. Parlin presented a resolution that the British Conference be requested to appoint a committee to consider, with a similar committee of the World Methodist Council, a scheme whereby the Epworth Old Rectory might be taken over by the Council and maintained as a historic center for World Methodism. This was adopted with unanimity. The following were named to represent the World Methodist Council in this matter and to report the joint findings to the 1956 meeting of the Council: The President, Vice President, Secretaries, Bishop Ferdinand Sigg, T. Harold Wood, Edwin L. Jones, and Charles C. Parlin.

WORLD METHODIST CONFERENCE, 1956

There was a full discussion of the dates, theme, and program for the Ninth World Methodist Conference to be held at Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, U.S.A., in 1956. Dates were agreed to. A subcommittee was named to consider the whole matter, consisting of the President, Vice-President, Secretaries, Bishop W. J. Walls, the Rev. T. Harold Wood, and Dr. J. Manning Potts.

(For the program agreed to and carried out see the volume of *Proceedings of the Ninth World Methodist Conference.*)

Constitution

The proposed Constitution of the World Methodist Council, as presented to previous sessions of the Executive Committee, was again submitted to the group by the Secretaries. It was read and discussed item by item. Several verbal changes were adopted and the Secretaries were instructed to incorporate these in a new draft and submit the same to the Council for final adoption.

(For the Constitution as finally adopted see the volume of *Proceedings of the Ninth World Methodist Conference*).

During the discussion Mr. Charles C. Parlin read a paper in favor of having one Secretary instead of two after 1961, following the example of other world confessions.

Public Meeting

On the evening of June 3rd there was a public meeting in the University Road Methodist Church. The President of the Irish Conference presided. The speakers were Dr. Elmer T. Clark, Dr. Dorothy Farrar, the Rev. T. Harold Wood, Bishop Ferdinand Sigg, and Bishop Bertram W. Doyle.

SATURDAY, JUNE 4

After morning devotions the Executive Committee resumed its deliberations in the assembly room of the College.

Greetings

Greetings were sent to the World Baptist Alliance, meeting in London on July 16th, and E. Benson Perkins was named as fraternal delegate to that body.

Greetings were sent to the Rev. Riccardo Santi, of the Casa Materna Orphanage near Naples, on the occasion of its sixtieth anniversary. Reginald Kissack invited the Committee to meet at Rome in 1957.

The Committee expressed gratitude to Dr. Northridge and the staff of Edgehill College and to the Irish Methodists and the Rev. J. B. Jameson for their hospitality and cooperation in making the meetings successful. Bishop W. J. Walls and the Rev. W. J. Noble expressed the thanks of the Committee to the President and Secretaries, and this was confirmed by a standing vote.

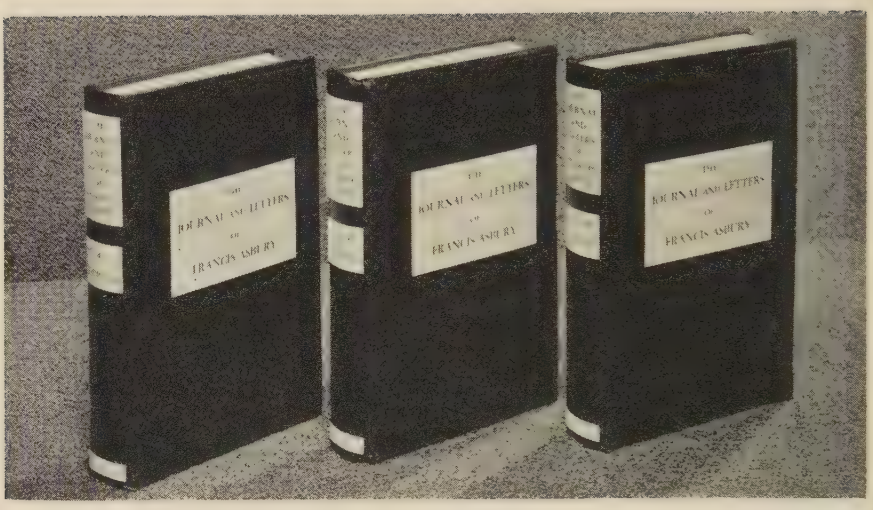
The President conducted the final devotional service in the College Chapel. The Committee adjourned at noon.

COURTESIES

During the meeting the Lord Mayor of Belfast received the members of the Committee at the City Hall, and a tour was arranged to the Houses of Parliament of Northern Ireland.

The President of the British conference entertained the Committee and visitors at a luncheon to which Church leaders of Belfast were invited. On adjournment there was an automobile tour through the countryside and to certain towns of Northern Ireland, arranged by Mr. Norman Robb. There were expressions of gratitude for these courtesies.

E. Benson Perkins
Elmer T. Clark
Secretaries



JOURNAL AND LETTERS OF FRANCIS ASBURY

The new and annotated edition of the *Journal and Letters of Francis Asbury,* most notable Methodist historical work of this generation, is now scheduled for publication in three volumes during the present year. It will be the first publication ever issued jointly by the Abingdon Press in America and the Epworth Press in Great Britain. It is under the editorship of Elmer T. Clark, J. Manning Potts, and Jacob S. Payton, assisted by a corps of fifteen Research Editors. It was undertaken on the recommendation of the National Publications Commission of the United States Government and is under the sponsorship of the World Methodist Council and the associated Methodist Historical Societies of the World.

Dr. Clark is Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal* and Dr. Potts is Editor-in-Chief of the *Letters.*

These basic documents of American Methodism have never before been annotated and the Letters have never before been collected. The forthcoming work has already aroused world-wide interest.

* * *

THE ASBURY AWARD

The Boy Scouts of America has established the Asbury Trail Award on a national basis. The Award is given to Explorer Scouts who hike the aboriginal Cataloochee Indian Trail over which Asbury and McKendree crossed the mountains in 1810 and submit an essay on the life of Asbury. It consists of a medal and a certificate and it has already been earned by about a dozen Scouts. The Boy Scout authorities report that interest in this project is developing throughout the country.

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